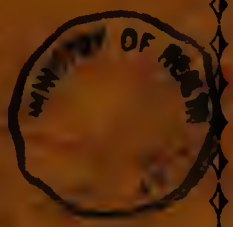
BOROUGH of BUCKINGHAM



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the Year

1960

1960

BOROUGH OF BUCKINGHAM

Mayor:

COUNCILLOR A. G. F. MARRIOTT

Deputy Mayor:

COUNCILLOR H. E. CORNWALL

Public Health Committee:

(*Full Council*)

Chairman: Alderman A. E. Busby, J.P.

Alderman The Rt. Hon. Lord Addington, O.B.E., T.D., D.L.

Alderman P. J. Small

Coun. C. E. J. Bristow-Bull

,, J. M. Cornwall

,, J. Edmonds

,, F. E. Y. Fleet

,, E. Goss

Alderman S. G. Williams

Coun. C. G. Hardy

,, T. E. Holton

,, W. Krohn

,, T. Lambourne

,, R. H. Manchester

Public Health Staff

Medical Officer of Health:

D. H. WALDRON, O.B.E., M.D., D.P.H., D.T.M. & H., Col. I.M.S. (Rtd).

(The Medical Officer of Health is also M.O.H. for Buckingham R.D.C., Bletchley U.D.C., Linslade U.D.C., Wing R.D.C., Newport Pagnell U.D.C., Newport Pagnell R.D.C., and Wolverton U.D.C., and Divisional School M.O. for North Bucks and Buckingham and Winslow District, and Area Medical Officer for North Bucks).

Deputy Medical Officer of Health:

F. O'ROURKE, M.B., B.CH., D.P.H., D.I.H.

Health Inspector:

R. TAYLOR, M.S.I.A. Telephone: Buckingham 2295

Secretary:

MISS A. PLUMMER.

BOROUGH OF BUCKINGHAM

Town Hall,
Buckingham.
30th June, 1961.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of the Borough of Buckingham.

Mr. Mayor, My Lord and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year 1960.

The Birth Rate shows a satisfactory rise of nearly 6 points over the previous year, and is now higher than the County rate and that for the rest of the country.

The Death Rate also shows a satisfactory drop from 1959 and is now nearly 3 points less than that for the country as a whole. Of the 38 deaths Heart and Allied Diseases and Cancer accounted for 29.

The Infantile Mortality Rate for the second year in succession shows the very satisfactory figure of nil.

I should like to record again my thanks to your Town Clerk, Mr. Archdeacon, your Borough Surveyor and Health Inspector, Mr. Rennie Taylor, and their staffs for their helpful co-operation during the year.

I am,
Your obedient Servant,
Daniel H. Waldron.

A. Vital Statistics

	1959	1960
Area (in acres)	5367	5367
Population	4150	4190
Number of Inhabited Houses	1670	1707
Rateable Value	£54,745	£58,329
Rate per £1	22/2	22/4
Sum represented by a Penny Rate ..	£215	£230

BIRTHS:	M.	F.		
Legitimate	39	40	54	79
Illegitimate	2	2	5	4
Birth rate per 1,000 population			15.0	20.9
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, (Bucks) ..			17.6	18.6
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, (England and Wales)			16.5	17.1
Still Births			1	2

	M.	F.		
DEATHS	23	15	42	38
Death rate per 1,000 population			9.8	8.9
,, ,, ,, (Bucks) ..			9.7	9.7
,, ,, ,, (England & Wales)			11.6	11.5
Maternal Mortality Rate			Nil	Nil
,, ,, ,, (Bucks) ..			0.25	0.11
,, ,, ,, (England & Wales)			0.38	0.39

INFANTILE MORTALITY

Deaths of Infants under 1 year per 1,000 live births	Nil	Nil
,, (Bucks)	18.4	19.8
,, (England & Wales) ..	22.0	21.7

Principal Causes of Death:	1959			1960		
	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.
Respiratory Tuberculosis ..	0	0	0	1	0	1
Other Tuberculosis	0	0	0	0	0	0
Influenza	1	0	1	0	0	0
Cancer	4	4	8	5	3	8
Diabetes	0	0	0	1	0	1
Cerebral Haemorrhage	3	2	5	2	4	6
Heart Disease	4	7	11	8	3	11
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	0	1	1	1	3	4
Bronchitis	1	1	2	0	0	0
Pneumonia	4	0	4	1	0	1
Digestive Diseases	0	1	1	0	0	0
Congenital Causes	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nephritis	1	0	1	0	0	0
Accidents	1	0	1	2	0	2
All other Causes	5	1	6	2	2	4
Totals ..	24	18	42	23	15	38

B. General Provision of Health Services

1. Laboratory Facilities.

Specimens for pathological investigation were sent, as in previous years, to the laboratory at Oxford. The arrangement was satisfactory. Samples for chemical analysis have to be sent to Haywards Heath.

2. Ambulance Services.

These are administered direct from the County Health Department, Aylesbury. One " Utilicon " car was stationed in Buckingham, and supplemented when necessary with ambulances from Bletchley. All vehicles are radio controlled.

3. Nursing in the Home.

The District Nurses as always carried out their excellent work.

4. Clinical and Treatment Centres.

(a) Maternity and Child Welfare Centre.—A Centre at the Congregational Chapel Hall has held bi-monthly sessions with the Medical Officer in attendance once a month. Although the amenities

of the Centre were far from ideal, good work has been carried out therein and attendance has been satisfactory. Total attendance of children throughout the year was 687. I feel that too much praise cannot be given to those ladies who give so much of their spare time in helping with this work. Diphtheria and other immunisations were also carried out in this Clinic.

(b) Orthopaedic Clinic—Sessions have been held twice monthly and have been staffed by nurses from the Wingfield Morris Hospital.

(c) Chest Clinic—This self-contained unit, complete with X-ray, continues to do very good work. It is held once a week at Buckingham Hospital, and is attended by the Chest Physician.

5. Hospitals.

The following hospitals have received cases from this area:

1. Buckingham Hospital.
2. Aylesbury Isolation Hospital (Infectious cases).
3. Slade Hospital, Oxford.
4. Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford.
5. Wingfield-Morris Hospital, Oxford.
6. Creaton Sanatorium.
7. Royal Bucks.
8. Tindal Hospital.

6. Domestic Help Service.

This service, instituted under the National Health Service Act, is administered by the County Council. During the year 69 cases were assisted.

C. Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

1. Water.

The public water supply was maintained throughout the year adequately. The quality was at all times satisfactory.

Average daily consumption was 40.82 gallons per head of the population.

Metered premises used 14,835,157 gallons,

The total amount of water consumed during the year in Buckingham and Gawcott was 61,300,600 gallons.

Abstraction from the Maids Moreton well was 56,446,990 gallons during the year. No serious breakdown of plant or machinery occurred.

Peak consumption was 210,300 gallons per day on the 21st November.

Twenty bacteriological examinations were made on the raw water, all were satisfactory.

Test pumping will shortly be carried out on the old borehole at Maids Moreton to ascertain whether an increased yield can be obtained from this source.

With mounting consumption it is very necessary to exploit to the full all the water resources of the Borough in order to meet summer peak demands.

Chemical Analysis of Public Water

	Parts per 100,000	Grains per Gallon
Total solids (dried at 180°C.)	48.0	33.6
Combined Chlorine (Cl)	2.2	1.5
Equivalent to Sodium Chloride (NaCl) ..	3.6	2.5
Nitric nitrogen (Nitrates)	0.04	0.03
Nitrous nitrogen (Nitrites)	Nil	Nil
Ammoniacal nitrogen	Nil	Nil
Albuminoid nitrogen	0.0010	0.0007
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 27°C.	0.003	0.002
Lead or Copper	Nil	Nil
Temporary hardness (equivalent to Ca Co3) ..	26.5	18.6
Permanent hardness (,, ,, ,,) ..	8.0	5.6
Total hardness (,, ,, ,,) ..	34.5	24.2

2. Sewage Disposal.

The new sewage disposal works at Bourton is producing a satisfactory effluent before discharge into the river.

Terms are being negotiated with the Buckingham R.D.C. whereby further extensions to the new works will be carried out to deal with sewage from Maids Moreton when the sewerage system to this village is modernised.

Considerable difficulty is found in disposing of the sludge residue from the works and some nuisance is caused in hot weather from the drying beds.

3. Refuse Disposal.

Refuse is collected once a fortnight in the Rural part of the area, and weekly in the built-up area.

Complaints regarding refuse collection are few and infrequent.

Refuse is disposed of by the controlled tipping method. One tip is used at Gawcott and the new tip at Stratford Road, Buckingham, is in operation. The latter site should provide tipping space for the town for a considerable number of years.

4. Swimming Pool.

The indifferent summer caused a drop in attendances. A small financial loss was suffered.

Season ticket sales produced	£206	2	0
Gate receipts produced	£356	8	9
Refreshments sold amounted to	£304	1	7

The Education Dept. contributed £133 6 5 for the use of the pool by local schools for swimming instruction.

The pool water was at all times satisfactory but the need is obvious for improved changing accommodation.

5. Factories.

No matters calling for special attention have been reported, and Factories Act Form 572 has been completed.

Factory extensions are in hand or proposed at Messrs. E. & F. Richardson's and also Messrs. Leslie Hartridge, Ltd. Progress is being made towards the completion of the Wipac development.

Thirty-eight outworkers were notified to the Council during the year.

PART I OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authorities	3	11	2	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	29	30	3	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	32	41	5	—

6. PUBLIC MORTUARY.

The Public Mortuary, situated in this Council's yard, continued to serve the needs of the Borough and the Rural District.

D. Housing

No new houses were built by the Council this year. Fourteen families were granted exchange tenancies and four families were rehoused.

New roads and sewers together with water mains were constructed to accommodate the erection of 46 houses and 16 single bedroom bungalows for aged people.

The 16 bungalows were commenced in October and it is hoped they will be occupied in the summer of 1961.

Speculative private building concerns have been granted planning permissions for 86 houses on two separate sites and this development should largely satisfy local demand for owner-occupied houses.

E. Annual Report of Surveyor and Public Health Inspector

I have pleasure in presenting a brief report on the principal activities of the Public Health Department during 1960.

Nuisances, Contravention of Bye-Laws, etc.

Complaints received and investigated	672
Nuisances, etc., found without complaint	21
Nuisances, etc., abated	581
Statutory Notices served under the Public Health Acts	1
Informal Notices served under the Public Health Acts	82
Prosecutions	—

Houses and Premises Inspected

The total number of inspections under the Public Health Acts were as follows:—

Dairies and Cowsheds	11
Bakehouses	7
Butchers' Shops	32
Slaughter Houses	110
Foodshops	41
Visits under the Tuberculosis Order	—
Infected house visits (excluding Tuberculosis cases) ..	—
Dwelling houses	399

Housing Acts.

A number of houses still remain occupied and fall short of standard requirements, some of these are occupied by families not prepared to pay the higher rents charged for council housing accommodation.

One dwelling was condemned under the Housing Acts.

CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR PART

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	200	..	1	700	342	..
Number inspected	200	..	1	700	342	..
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci Whole Carcases condemned	..	..	..	..	..	..
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	17	..	..	9	5	..
% of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci	8.5	..	..	1.28	1.43	..
Tuberculosis only. Whole Carcases condemned	..	..	..	..	..	..
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	..	..	..	..	..	..
% of inspected affected with Tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cysticercosis. Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	..	..	..	..	..	..
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	..	..	..	..	..	..
Generalised and totally condemned	..	..	..	..	..	..

279 lbs. of other foods were condemned and destroyed during the year.

Close attention has been paid to food premises, having regard to the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955-56.

The number of premises affected by the regulations being 84 and falling into the following categories:—

Cafes and Restaurants	8
Public Houses	17
Stalls	5
Canteens	15
Food Shops	34
Dairies	3

The number of premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act is 22, and all such premises are regularly inspected.

No clean food campaigns have been sponsored during the period.

All food premises have been supplied with extracts from the Food Hygiene Regulations.

PETROLEUM (CONSOLIDATION) ACT, 1928.

Licences issued for the storage of Petroleum Spirit	28
Inspection of Petroleum Stores	32

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ORDER, 1919.
RODENT INFESTATION ORDER, 1943.

Work under this heading has continued to occupy a large amount of time, and much good work has been done in this direction throughout the year. The following is a brief summary of the work carried out:—

Number of complaints received	25
Number of premises treated for rats	51
Number of premises treated for mice	7
Estimated number of rats destroyed	35
Actual rats' bodies found	19
Visits for Inspection and Survey	116
Visits for Baiting and Extermination	52

RENNIE TAYLOR,
Surveyor and Public Health Inspector.

F. Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious and other Diseases.

1. General.

The year was very free from any epidemics of notifiable Infectious Diseases.

2. Number of Notified Cases of Infectious Disease.

	1959	1960
Measles	3	4
Scarlet Fever	2	—
Whooping Cough	2	—

3. Cancer.

There were 8 deaths from this disease during the year.

4. Tuberculosis.

Four new cases were notified and there was one death.

D. H. WALDRON,

Medical Officer of Health.

E. N. Hillier & Sons Ltd.
Printers
Buckingham